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PATENT

Case Docket No. MEISS86.001APC
Date: September 24, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Graf et al.
Appl. No. : 10/501,004
Filed : July 8, 2004
For : ACCESSORY FOR
IMPLANTATION OF A HIP-
JOINT ENDOPROSTHESIS,
AND METHOD FOR
MANIPULATING IT
Examiner : Unknown
Group Art Unit : 3738

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

September 24, 2004

(Date)

Lang J. McHardy, Reg. No. 50,591

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

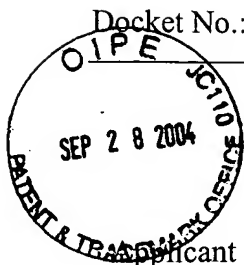
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement.
- (X) A PTO Form 1449 with eight (8) references.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.

Lang J. McHardy
Registration No. 50,591
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant : Graf et al.
App. No. : 10/501,004
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is form PTO-1449 listing eight references. Copies of disclosed U.S. patents and/or publications are not included pursuant to PTO waiver of the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for applications filed after June 30, 2003. Copies of other references, if listed, are enclosed.

German Utility Model DE 200 21 494 and French Patent FR 2,233,972 were cited by the PCT International Searching Authority as generally defining the state of the art, and are not considered to be of particular relevance to the claims of the present application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, and presumably no fee is required in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). If a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before the mailing date of this Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

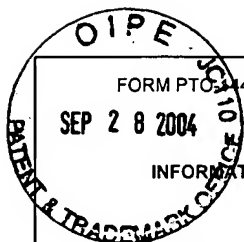
Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 9/23/04

By: Lang J. McHardy

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FORM PTO-149

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
MEISS86.001APCAPPLICATION NO.
10/501,004INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

(USE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

APPLICANT
Graf et al.FILING DATE
July 8, 2004GROUP
3738

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE)
	1	5,098,437	03/24/92	Kashuba et al.			
	2	6,102,915	08/15/00	Bresle et al.			
	3	US 2001/0012967	08/09/01	Mosseri et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	4	EP 0 612 509 A2		EP				
	5	EP 0 229 676 A2		EP				
	6	WO 01/91 673 A1		WO				
	7	DE 200 21 494 U		DE				
	8	FR 2 233 972 A		FR				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

EXAMINER INITIAL		

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091404

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
<p>*EXAMINER: INITIAL IF CITATION CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP 609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED, INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.</p>	